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NEWS RELEASE

TO: Area Media Outlets

FROM: Tracy Metcalfe

DATE: October 30, 2012

RUN: Immediate Release

November Flu Vaccination Clinic

The Bay County Health Department will be holding a community flu vaccination clinic for the public on **November 30, 2012 from 8:00am – 3:30pm.** The clinic will be held at the Health Department located at 1200 Washington Ave. This is a walk-in clinic. Flu Vaccines will be given on a first come first serve basis.

This year the fall flu vaccine will protect against the influenza A H3N2 virus, the Wisconsin influenza B virus, and the 2009 H1N1 virus. The flu vaccine is important for everyone. It protects you from getting the flu and passing it on to those around you. It is especially important that people who have the greatest risk for serious complications from the flu infection get vaccinated.

These people include:

- Elderly people
- Young children
- People with chronic lung disease (such as asthma and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease), diabetes, heart disease, neurologic conditions, and certain other long-term health conditions
- Pregnant women

You cannot receive the flu vaccine if:

- You have a severe allergic reaction to chicken eggs causing respiratory distress
- Have experienced an allergic reaction to flu vaccines in the past
- Have had Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS)
- Or if you are currently ill with a fever, causing a temperature of 100° or greater, you should wait until your symptoms pass before getting vaccinated.

Health insurances will be billed to cover the cost of the vaccination. Please bring your insurance card and identification with you. If you have Medicare Part B, bring your red-white-and-blue Medicare Card and driver's license or other form of ID and Medicare will be billed for the vaccination. If you do not have health insurance, the cost of the vaccine is \$25.00. Cost may be determined based on income.

People are encouraged to wear short sleeves or sleeves that can easily be rolled up.

Please call Bay County Health Department's Health Information line at 895-4192, or visit the website at www.baycounty-mi.gov/health for updated information.